

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that the double patenting rejection could be overcome if Applicants filed a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c).

Claims 1 and 7 are currently amended.

This amendment changes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-7 are now pending and submitted for reconsideration.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-7 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,884,827 (hereinafter “Ota et al. 1”) as evidenced by JP 2004-331814 (hereinafter “Yamamoto et al.”). Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn because a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) has been filed.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto et al. in view of JP 06-051679 (hereinafter “Matsumoto”) as evidenced by Solvay Advanced Polymers, LLC product data sheet. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 2004-0082701 (hereinafter “Ota et al. 2”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,428,096 (hereinafter “Fukunaga et al.”) and Matsumoto.

Applicants submit that neither Yamamoto et al. nor Ota et al. 2 are prior art. Applicants are entitled to a U.S. filing date of September 29, 2004 because Applicants filed this application on September 29, 2004. Applicants are entitled to an invention date of

October 2, 2003 because Applicants claim priority to JP 2003-344103. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.55, WIPO has already submitted a copy of a certified copy of JP 2003-344103. Applicants now submit an English language translation of JP 2003-344103 with a statement that the translation is accurate.

Yamamoto et al. was published on November 25, 2004. Accordingly, Yamamoto et al. is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) because Yamamoto et al. was published after Applicants' invention date of October 2, 2003. Yamamoto et al. is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) because Yamamoto et al. was published after Applicants' date of application for patent in the United States. Further, Yamamoto et al. is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) because Yamamoto et al. was not filed in the United States. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Office withdraw the rejection of claims 1 and 7.

Ota et al. 2 was published on April 29, 2004. Accordingly, Ota et al. 2 is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) because Ota et al. 2 was published after Applicants' invention date of October 2, 2003. Ota et al. 2 is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), because Ota et al. 2 was published less than one year prior to the date of Applicants' application for patent in the United States. In addition, Ota et al. 2 is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) because Ota et al. 2 was not filed in the U.S. before Applicants' invention date. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1 and 7.

Claims 2-6 depend from independent claim 1. Dependent claims 2-6 are patentable for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1 on which they ultimately depend. In addition, claims 2-6 recite additional patentable features when considered as a whole. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-6 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

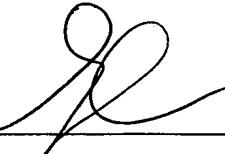
Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing or a credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By



Date 2/10/09

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APPENDIX A



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JUNE 14, 2006

PTAS



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DOCKET NUMBER: 040302-0559

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DOC DATE: 03/22/2006

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DOC DATE: 03/22/2006

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DOC DATE: 03/15/2006

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SERIAL NUMBER: 10574216

FILING DATE:

PATENT NUMBER:

ISSUE DATE:

TITLE: SEAL RING AND SEAL DEVICE

VIOLET MCCOY, EXAMINER
ASSIGNMENT SERVICES BRANCH
PUBLIC RECORDS DIVISION

FORM PTO-1595 (modified)
(Rev. 6-93)

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Received MAR 31 MAR 2006
attached original documents or copies thereof.

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 Tomihito HASHIMOTO (03-22-2006)
 Yasuaki YAMAMOTO (03-15-2006)
 Hiroo KUSANO (03-15-2006)

Additional conveying party(ies) NO

3. Nature of conveyance:

ASSIGNMENT

Execution Date:

See dates above

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4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: March 15 and 22, 2006

A. Patent Application Number(s):

B. Patent Number(s):

Additional numbers attached? NO

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

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4/11/2006 LLANDGRA 00000022 10574216

4 FC:8021

40.00 OP

6. Total number of applications/patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 C.F.R. § 3.41): \$40.00

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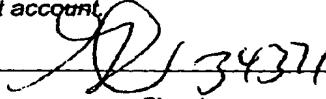
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To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional recordation fees which may be required in this matter to the above-identified deposit account.

Glenn Law

Name of person signing



Signature

March 31, 2006

Date

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ASSIGNMENT

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, each undersigned inventor has sold and assigned, and by these presents hereby sells and assigns, unto

*name and
address of
assignee* *NISSAN MOTOR CO.,LTD. of 2, Takara-cho, Kanagawa-ku, Yokohama-shi,
Kanagawa-ken, Japan*
HITACHI CABLE,LTD. of 4-14-1, Sotokanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan

(hereinafter ASSIGNEE) all right, title and interest for the United States, its territories and possessions in and to this invention relating to

*title of
invention* *SEAL RING AND SEAL DEVICE*

as set forth in this United States Patent Application

check one executed concurrently herewith
 executed on _____
 Serial No. PCT/JP2004/014700 Filed September 29, 2004

in and to said United States Patent Application including any and all divisions or continuations thereof and in and to any and all Letters Patent of the United States which may issue on any such application or for said invention, including any and all reissues or extensions thereof, to be held and enjoyed by said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns to the full end of the term or terms for which any and all such Letters Patent may be granted as fully and entirely as would have been held and enjoyed by the undersigned had this Assignment not been made;

Each of the undersigned hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all such Letters Patent to said ASSIGNEE, its successors or assigns in accordance herewith;

Each of the undersigned warrants and covenants that he has the full and unencumbered right to sell and assign the interests herein sold and assigned and that he has not executed and will not execute any document or instrument in conflict herewith;

Each of the undersigned further covenants and agrees he will communicate to said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives or assigns all information known to him relating to said invention or patent application and that he will execute and deliver any papers, make all rightful oaths, testify in any legal proceedings and perform all other lawful acts deemed necessary or desirable by said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives or assigns to perfect title to said invention, to said application including divisions and continuations thereof and to any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor or thereon, including reissues or extensions, in said ASSIGNEE, its successors, or assigns or to assist said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives or assigns in obtaining, reissuing or enforcing Letters Patent of the United States for said invention;

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Name: Yasuaki YAMAMOTO	Signature: <i>Yasuaki Yamamoto</i>	Date: 15, March, 2006
Name: Hiroo KUSANO	Signature: <i>Hiroo Kusano</i>	Date: 15, March, 2006
Name:	Signature:	Date:

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Patent #: [6884827](#) Issue Dt: 04/26/2005 Application #: 10403284 Filing Dt: 04/01/2003
Publication #: [20030189295](#) Pub Dt: 10/09/2003

Inventors: Tomohito Ota, Tomihito Hashimoto, Yasuaki Yamamoto, Hiroo Kusano

Title: SEAL RING AND SEAL DEVICE

Assignment: 1

Reel/Frame: [013934/0617](#) Recorded: 04/01/2003 Pages: 3

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